REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. No claims have been amended. Claims 1, 2 and 4 – 14 are currently pending.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2 and 4 – 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,211,858 ("Moon1") and Moon, U.S. Patent No. 6,385,662 ("Moon2"). Independent claims 1 and 8 both require "upon receipt of a user input indicating a desire to view the hidden notification area icons, redisplaying the hidden notification area icons in the notification area." Regarding this claim step, the Office Action and the Advisory Action rely on Moon2. Applicants respectfully submit that Moon2 does not teach this aspect of claims 1 and 8.

Moon2 discloses techniques for processing information and teaches a user interface display upon which a status bar is presented to the user. Following a particular instance of an event, a status message is displayed within the status bar. For example, Moon2 discloses displaying a message icon in response to the receipt of a particular email message. When a user chooses to ignore the message, it is removed from the status bar and is placed into a history file. Subsequently, a user may indicate a desire to view this history file, and Moon2 displays an event log. Moon2, col. 5, ll. 38 – 41 ("When the user is ready to respond to one or more events which were previously ignored, the history icon is selected 240, the status bar history file is accessed, and the event log is displayed 405, shown in FIG. 4."). The displayed event log is not a redisplay of the message icon, rather the event log shows "relevant information regarding the event, including event type date, time, telephone number (if applicable), and the like." Moon2,

col. 5, ll. 41 – 45.   Thus, Moon2 teaches displaying an event log in response to a user input requesting to view hidden items, not the redisplay of a notification icon in the notification area.

By handling inactive notifications by redisplaying relevant information in an event log, Moon2 does not teach "redisplaying the hidden notification area icons in the notification area," as required by the methods of claims 1 and 8.   Various document in the file history discuss the teachings of Moon2 in this regard: Office Action dated 09/07/2005, p. 4 (stating that Moon2 "fails to explicitly teach upon receipt of a user input indicating a desire to view the notification area icon, redisplaying the notification area icon in the notification area."); Applicant's Summary of Interview filed on 06/16/2005; Examiner's Summary of Interview mailed 06/24/2005.   Therefore, the combination of Moon1 and Moon2 does not teach the methods recited by claims 1 and 8, and, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 and claim 8 are in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that dependent claims 2, and 4-7, which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.   Applicants also submit that dependent claims 9-14, which depend from claim 8, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 8.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, claims 1, 2, and 4 – 14 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1, 2, and 4 – 14. If any issues remain which would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned prior to issuing a subsequent action. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

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